

The Bethel Courier.

BETHEL, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 2, 1899.

Editorial Correspondence.

SALEM, Mass., Nov. 15, 1899.
Here we are in the City of Peace, though its early history suggests anything but that. The railroad runs under a portion of the city. A good anecdote is told of an Irishman who was stationed there by one of his fellows when the road was first built, to watch the train and then notify them. The cars came rushing along and before Pat could give the desired information it was under ground and out of sight. His companions soon came up, but all the information he could give was, that the engine came rushing along, gave a shriek and went into the hole, in the ground out of sight. No wonder that it appeared to him like some huge monster.

Looking out for a guide we were fortunate in securing the attention of John Preston, Esq., a member of the City Council, who took us into a carriage and pointed out to us all the objects of interest in the city. The Mechanics' building is a large and imposing edifice and an ornament to the city. It has a hall capable of holding 1500 people, besides rooms for a library and other purposes. Every member not only takes out books, but every member of his family has the same privilege. Lyceum Hall holds 650 persons and is admirably constructed to accommodate an audience. In the eastern part of the city is the Almshouse.

We visited the High School under the care of Mr. Bachelder, who has been in the service for 30 years. He is a successful teacher, we next visited the Female Normal School under the care of Prof. A. S. Crosby. Here are 130 young ladies under special training for the office of teachers. The most of them have graduated in the High Schools and receive here that special drilling so necessary for the schoolroom. Prof. C. has a high reputation as the author of a Greek Grammar. We next visited the old Graveyard in the centre of the city. Here we saw the tomb of Timothy Pickens the first Post Master General under Washington. His home is still standing in sight of his tomb. In this yard probably lies the body of our own ancestor who came to Salem in 1644. Gallows Hill where the witches were hung is now covered with houses. Entering the National History rooms we spent two or three hours very pleasantly. Here was pointed out the club with which Capt. White was murdered. His house and the room in which he was murdered were also shown. Here are the spinning wheels of our grandmothers. A large collection of Indian implements, an iron axe made by the natives of Madagascar, a case of Turtles from all parts of the world, another of Fossil shells among which is the Ichthyosaurus so interesting to Geologists. Fishes, minerals and birds are here collected in large numbers. One room is devoted to bound newspapers. Here is nearly every paper ever printed in Salem. On another floor, is a library belonging to the society, and the Athenaeum containing 25000 volumes. Every almanac and catalogue, railroad and other reports, however trifling, are collected and preserved here. At the entrance of the building is a large painting of a trial of witchcraft. There is one feature of this society worthy of imitation. During the summer months the members take an excursion to a neighboring town, where they scatter, and collect subjects of interest, and in the afternoon report on what they have seen. Several hundred thus unite in one excursion.

Pursuing our route we rode to Machpelah where the fishermen make their homes. This town contains about 1000 inhabitants, but presents nothing very inviting.

Salem is a pleasant and healthy city. It reminds one of Portland, though the latter is the more thriving city. It formerly enjoyed a large

amount of East India trade but its shares are now the depository of cargoes of coal. The East India museum is composed of Captains and Surgeons who have been round the Cape of Good Hope.

East of Salem is Beverly and west is Danvers where are immense nurseries and where large crops of onions are raised. We saw farmers carrying them in carts to market as the farmers of Maine do their potatoes.

Taking the cars from Salem, we went to Boston, and forthwith proceeded up the street of forty different smalls and where every collar and avenue poured forth forty babies. Making our way to the New England Farmer Office we were ushered into the presence of Ex-Governor Brown, the well known editor and farmer. He is a plain common sense intelligent man, just such as we love to see. He owns the farm in Concord where the first blood was spilled in the battle of Lexington, and evidently knows how to live. We also found one old Maine friend, Russell P. Eaton, who is largely interested in that office. The Farmer is a noble paper and is doing a good work in Massachusetts, and other States. Having a little leisure we strolled into the old cemetery on Copp's Hill. Here we found grave-stones nearly 200 years old. Here lie buried Cotton and Increase Mather, who figured so largely among the early learned men of New England. On the top of the hill is a grave-stone on which it is stated that the owner lies in a stone coffin ten feet under ground.

We were shown some grave-stones against which the British soldiers fired their bullets to gratify their revenge upon some patriot of the revolution. They form smooth saucer-shaped cavities in the rock.

Many of the stones were removed many years ago by the floating population. But they have been replaced as far as possible. No burials are allowed here except in the tombs. The older stones frequently have the family coat of arms elaborately wrought out, while the name of the family is wanting. In one corner is a handsome monument dedicated by Rev. Phineas Stone to be the burial place of seamen of all nations. Having made a call on an old friend who screamed for joy on seeing us. We took the Eastern Queen for Hallowell, at 5 P. M. It was a lovely night, the boat did not rock in the least, and the next morning we found ourselves in Hallowell which has become a city. We first called on Bro. Rowell, of the Gazette, whose paper is always as fresh as June air. We found him hard at work as he has been these twenty years in procuring material for his paper. Excepting himself, we think he is the hardest working Editor we have seen in the State, and shall hold to that opinion till we see the rest. He kindly took us to see the new and splendid bridge now in process of building across the Kennebec. It is supported on nine piers of Hallowell granite, and the stone and woodwork appear strong, yet light and graceful. We doubt if there is a handsomer structure in the State. Hallowell remains without much change in its external appearance. It is a pleasant place, and has been the residence of some of the most prominent families in the State.

With carpet-bag in hand we walked up to Augusta, paid our respects to the State House, and visited the Farmer Office where friend Homan is at hand to meet the wants of subscribers. Calling into the Journal Office we found Bro. Sayward at his back window, where he looks across the Kennebec on to a beautiful scene. He has many texts in store for future use, and he knows how to write from them. A sunshiny looking Editor will find interesting material everywhere.

Nearly every family in this village have been compelled to dig their wells deeper in order to obtain water. The ground was never known to be dry to a great depth as it is now. There has been no rain to affect the wells since June.

MAINE TEACHERS' CONVENTION.

We copy from the Boston Journal an account of the proceedings of the State Convention of Teachers held at Waterville Nov. 16, 17, and 18.

The Convention was organized by choice of Hon. Josiah H. Drummond of Waterville for President and Dr. N. T. True of Bethel for Secretary. A felicitous address of welcome was made by the President. A brief address was delivered by Mr. Dunnell, State Superintendent after which a lecture was delivered by Rev. E. P. Webb of Augusta on the life of Hugh Miller.

The exercises of the second day were opened by a lecture by Dr. True of Bethel. Subject—Elements of Power. The lecture treated of the right combination of the elements of intellectual, physical, and moral power in the personification of a true and elevated manhood. It was full of vigorous thought, expressed in clear and forcible language.

A discussion then took place upon the best method of communicating moral and religious instruction. The discussion was opened by Rev. Mr. Pearl, who spoke of the importance of religious training, and necessity, in order to the highest intellectual development. A right religious faith is well adapted to the character of the student. He spoke of the elevation of the Anglo-Saxon race as the result of religious principles, and referred with approval to the Puritan method of teaching theology.

In order to a successful inculcation of religious truth the teacher must feel the force of that truth in his own heart. The inculcation of moral virtues, as the abstinence of whatever is noxious, should not be neglected. Here, however, all teachers are not good examples. The speaker had heard that the State Superintendent had been obliged, on a former occasion, to request abstinence from tobacco during the session of a Teachers' Institute. A lamentable state of things, when his efforts to improve the teachers must begin by forcing their mouths from tobacco! God speed his efforts in that direction!

Rev. Dr. Champlin, President of Waterville College, spoke of the subject under discussion as a practical one. The question has been raised in other States whether the Bible should be read in the schools. Dr. Champlin spoke of the value of the Bible as a reading book and a source of instruction. Many of its precepts are particularly adapted to make a permanent impression on the mind of the child, e. g., "Kill communication corrupt good manners," and many opportunities would occur in the course of the teacher's work, for enforcing these truths. Precepts like these are short, comprehensive and easily retained in the memory of the child.

Another efficient method of conveying moral truth, and one readily understood even by very young children, is by descriptions of characters drawn from the Bible. From the history of our own country also much material may be obtained for a similar purpose. The speaker also referred to popular proverbs as being, often, forcible expressions of important moral truth.

Remarks were also made by Rev. A. Wilson, D.D., of Waterville, Rev. Mr. Leonard of Waterville and Mrs. Dunnell True and E. P. Webb.

Before the close of the forenoon session a committee was chosen to nominate officers for a permanent organization.

Exercises began with a discussion on the subject of awarding prizes to scholars. The subject was thoroughly canvassed, including systems of marking, in high schools and colleges. The speakers were Dr. Champlin, Professor Lyford of Waterville College, Dr. True, Mr. Barnham of Farmington, Mr. Worcester of Bangor, Mr. Hambleton of Waterville, Mr. Dunnell and Rev. Mr. Pearl. The afternoon session closed with a lecture by Rev. Mr. Pearl. Subject—The Teacher's Vocation.

Mr. Worcester of Bangor in the chair.

Discussion—Subject: The relative prominence which should be given to Mathematics and the Languages as subjects of study.

Remarks by Dr. True, Prof. Lyford, Mr. Barnham, Mr. Johnson of Topsham, and others.

A lecture by Mr. Weston of Gorham. Subject: The Schoolmaster. The lecture opened with a humorous description of the schoolmaster of the olden time. The speaker argued that though the name schoolmaster has become almost obsolete, yet every successful teacher must be a master in the profession. The following, among other things, were indicated upon an essential qualifications of the teacher:

Dignity, felicity of expression and address. The teacher, like every other person in command, must be able to govern himself. Finally, character, the crowning element of governing power.

The afternoon and evening sessions were held in the Town Hall, which, in the evening, was crowded, every seat being filled and every standing place occupied. The exercises were pleasantly varied with instrumental and vocal music by ladies and gentlemen of Waterville.

THIRD DAY.

Waterville, Nov. 18, 1899. The third day of the State Teachers' Convention was commenced by prayer from Prof. M. Lyford, after which a lecture was delivered by Mr. I. Dole of Gorham, on the Elements of General Grammar. A discussion was then held on the question: Do the wants of the Public Schools demand the establishment of a State Normal School? This was advocated by D. Worcester of Bangor, Pres. Champlin of Waterville, Mr. Barnham of Farmington, Mr. Weston of Gorham, Mr. Dunnell of Norway, and Dr. True of Bethel. This was a spirited discussion, and elicited much valuable information.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Discussion—Question—"Should the Natural Sciences be taught in our Public Schools?" Interesting and instructive remarks were made by Dr. True, who with several geological specimens before him, illustrated the manner in which a description of them could be made both entertaining and profitable to children. Remarks were made by several other gentlemen. The prevailing sentiment of the Convention seemed to be in the affirmative of the question. A lecture was then delivered by Rev. Mr. Barnham, treating of the duties and necessary qualifications of the teacher.

EVENING SESSION.

The last session of the Convention was commenced with a further consideration of the subject under discussion in the morning. A spirited debate ensued, which elicited repeated rounds of applause from the audience. The lecturer of the evening, Mr. Wells of Portland, was at length introduced. Mr. Wells began with a graphic and startling delineation of the gloom and desolation that would cover the earth were it deprived of the sun's rays. He spoke of the sun as a source of power, and traced the forces derived from the sun's rays, through numerous vegetable and animal organizations, and addressed various examples of well-known forces, and explained their derivation from the same great source. But no analysis of ours will give a just idea of the lecture. It was delivered without notes, and with animation and elegance of oratory that could not fail to command the attention and admiration of the densely packed audience.

After the lecture, resolutions were passed expressing approval of the discharge of official duties on the part of the State Superintendent; setting forth the importance of a State Convention of teachers, and a normal school; and complimenting those who had contributed to the pleasure of the convention by singing. By a report of a committee, previously adopted, a permanent organization was effected, Hon. Mark H. Dunnell being chosen President, and several well known gentlemen Vice Presidents, N. T. True, Sec. After a half hour of social intercourse, and singing by the choir, the convention was declared adjourned. Many our teachers find time to practice all the good suggestions made in this convention, and may our legislators generously respond to the wants of our school system, as here expressed.

Yours, Q

BURGLARY AT EARVILLE, LA SALLE CO., ILL. Last Friday night the office of Messrs. Snyder and Brown was broken into, and \$1,480 of money belonging to Mr. Snyder, was taken out of the safe. Mr. Snyder left the key in the safe, which was unlocked. Mr. Brown had \$8,000 in notes and mortgages, which were left strewn upon the floor. Mrs. Brown had that day paid to her on a note, \$620, which she had deposited in the safe. Mr. Brown was at Ottawa attending Court, at the time. We do not learn that any person is suspected. The key was found in the safe, untouched, in the morning.—*Exchange.*

The above refers to Jacob W. Brown Esq., formerly of Albany in this County.

Died in this village the 11th, inst., Mrs. Lucinda M. S. Frost, widow of the late Rev. Charles Frost.

The deceased was born in Scarborough, in 1795. In her early childhood her father, Mr. Ezra Smith, removed to Topsham where he lived a few years. Meeting with some reverses in fortune he afterwards removed to Hanover, Oxford Co. Mrs. Frost had her residence in that place until she became the wife of Mr. Frost, in 1826. She lived in Bethel 28 years, and during this long period, has been known as a sober and consistent Christian, and the beloved wife of a beloved minister.

Her memory will long be precious to this people, whom she has so often met in the house of prayer, and at their own homes, with whom she has mingled in sickness and in health, in joy and in sorrow.

For many months she has been a great sufferer, but amid all her trials has shown great patience; receiving them as the chastenings of her heavenly father. Her thoughts turned delightfully towards heaven as the home of the pure in heart. She desired most of all things else to be fitted for that holy place. Her whole reliance was upon Jesus Christ into whose hands she committed her spirit. We saw her when she was in "the dark valley" and heard her express the desire to hear once more the voice of prayer. We left her dying bedside with the assured hope that she would soon exchange the "earthly tabernacle for the building of God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens."

"Triumphant smiles the victor's brow." Thus has passed from us a family name that has held an important place in this community for forty years.

The Canadian iron screw steamer Indian, from Liverpool 5th inst. for Portland, struck on a sea ledge near Mars Joseph, on Monday 21st. She had 33 passengers, with crew numbering 160, 300 tons cargo, and some specie. Half an hour after striking, the steamer parted amidships. One boat capsized, by which several were drowned; another boat stove alongside; two more boats, with passengers and crew, drifted to sea and have not since been heard from. Sch. Alexander, Capt. Schinout, was first to render assistance, and arrived at Halifax yesterday, with twenty-four of the rescued on board. The number of lives lost is not yet known. Sch. Lucia ran close to the wreck, went among the breakers and became a total wreck. Crew saved.

TOWN CONVENTIONS OF TEACHERS. At the State Teachers' Convention last week at Waterville, a resolution was adopted recommending to teachers to hold town conventions on the last Saturdays in December and January. This is a most excellent movement. We are sure, from past experience, that these little gatherings of teachers will accomplish a vast deal of good. They will be to teachers like the Farmer's Club to the farmer, and we hope that every paper in the State will call the attention of teachers to this matter. Let them meet and talk over their experience, and inform each other how they teach and govern. Some of the best teachers Maine ever produced were made so in meetings like these. Sometimes it will be convenient for two or three adjacent towns to unite in convention.

The steam-tug on the Androscoggin has suspended operations on account of the river's being frozen over.

We met Bro. Forbes of the Journal in the cars, last week, and from his appearance we shall be obliged to open a whole barrel of Bell Flowers to satisfy him when he comes to see us. However, he works hard in getting up a good paper for his readers and we are bound to fill him up with something.

Abnerthry Grover, Esq., mailed in the last steamer for Hamburg, with the intention of bringing home the remains of his brother, Prof. T. Geo-

Teachers. Will teachers please observe that the Sup. School Com., will be in session at the Academy Hall, in this village Saturday, Dec. 3d, at noon and during the afternoon. It is hoped all persons desiring to teach in our town schools this winter who have not already obtained certificates, will attend this meeting, as the com. will not grant certificates singly except for very good reasons. A. G. GAINES Bethel, Nov. 28.

We owe three apologies for the non-appearance of the Courier last week. The first was because nobody gave us a Turkey for Thanksgiving; The second, because our paper did not arrive in season; The third because several columns of matter fell into Thanksgiving pie.

We have received from the Principal, Mr. Cheney, a catalogue of the Maine State Seminary for 1899. Its Aggregate number of students for the year is 470. We are glad to see the Free Will Baptist Denomination in possession of so flourishing an institution. We learn that an effort is making to endow a Professorship in Agricultural Chemistry in the Institution.

We thank a correspondent for his friendly criticisms and suggestions in regard to our paper. In regard to our History of Bethel, we cannot manufacture material. We must take it as we find it. In that, as in our other selections, we cannot expect to please everybody, but shall try to give out something each week, that will make our paper readable. His communication will appear as soon as the space in our columns will admit.

If you want a capital water-proof blanking, call on Aaron Cross, who manufactures it. We know, because we have tried it.

We had a fine storm on Tuesday, and have capital sleighing.

We entirely forgot until it was too late that it was customary for Editors to write something about Thanksgiving.

DEATH OF WASHINGTON IRVING. New York, Nov. 29. Washington Irving died last night at his residence in Irvington.

Bro. Lamson says that the Bourbon Eliza has such an effect on him that he can brag like a donkey. Up to your old tricks, eh? Sorry.

ITEMS.

The first mail for Europe from the Western States, via the G. T. Railway, passed through Montreal on Saturday. The run from Chicago to Montreal was made in thirty-two hours.

A train passed through the Victoria Bridge last Thursday. Regular trains will run through by the middle of December. The Canadian screw steamer Bohemian, arrived in Portland Nov. 29th, with 50 passengers and a fair cargo. Spain is active in preparation for war against the Moors.

Cortinas has hung three Americans in revenge for hanging his officers at Brownsville. John Brown will be executed this week Friday, 2000 soldiers will form a hollow square and no civilian will be allowed to enter it during the execution. The excitement is intense. All strangers are warned to leave and passports demanded of all who may enter the State from the North. There, are in this Village, 15 inches of snow and excellent sleighing.

PETERSON'S MAGAZINE.

We are in receipt of this popular Lady's Magazine for December. It is a splendid number. "Peterson" has a circulation already, of nearly 100,000, but will be greatly improved in 1890. It will contain about 1000 pages of double column reading matter; 14 steel plates; 12 colored fashion plates; 12 colored patterns in Berlin work, embroidery or crochet; and 600 wood engravings—properly more than any other periodical gives. Its stories and novels are by the best writers. Its price is but Two Dollars a year, or a dollar less than Magazines of its class. Subscribe for it and send a dollar. To obtain this cheap rate send us one copy for \$1, or eight for \$8.00 to cover postage. Send a check, the Publisher will send two splendid engravings of Niagara, of a size for framing.

Address, CHARLES J. PETERSON, 306 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia.

The Bethel Courier.

MAILS.
Mails close as follows:
To Portland, 10 A. M.
To Lewiston, 1 P. M.

ARRIVAL & DEPARTURE OF TRAINS.

Morning train leaves Bethel for Portland 10:45 A. M. Returning—arrives from Portland at 4:12 P. M.

RELIGIOUS SERVICES.

Every Sabbath, at 11 o'clock A. M. 1-2 P. M. In the following churches:
First Cong. — Rev. Mr. WHEATLAND
Second — Rev. Mr. GARDNER
Universalist — Rev. Mr. GARDNER

MEETINGS FOR PRAYER.

Sunday evenings at 6:12 o'clock, at the Free Will Baptist Church, Tuesday evenings. Prayer Meeting Saturday evenings.

PROSPECTUS

The Bethel Courier.

THE SECOND VOLUME of our paper commenced December 16th.

Dr. B. F. TACK, will continue as Editor. The Courier will be thoroughly kept abreast in its tone, general and cheerful in its character, its aims will be high, and the object of its conduct will be to give the "Truth" without fear, favor or feign, and to advocate principles prominent of the high interests of society.

The Continuance of the Courier is no longer a matter of experiment. Its constantly increasing subscription list within the service of an agent for an hour, in the best evidence of its success that we can present. It now finds its way to almost every State and Territory in the Union wherever the sun and daughters of Bethel go, there the Courier finds its way to gladden the hearts and homes of those far away.

We wish to make the Courier a readable paper, one that shall have useful and entertaining matter every week. We hope to make it still more useful for the year to come. The History of the Town will be continued through the next year, when we shall have greater facilities for making a good paper.

We believe that its location has been a benefit to all classes of community. It is an advertising sheet for all, while it keeps carefully posted in all the local news of the country.

The Publisher tenders his thanks to his friends for their interest in his behalf, and respectfully solicits a continuance of the same.

TERMS.—Fifty Dollars in advance, or One Dollar and Five Cents at the end of the year.

Communications for the paper to be directed to the Editor. Business letters to the Publisher.

THE DEERHOUND LIGHT ENGINEER.

It is reported that a gentleman at Rochester has just perfected a new arrangement for light, which is reported to be far superior to the celebrated Drummond light. The light has been placed on one of the locomotives of the Cent at Railroad, and an experimental trip made a few nights since. The track was perfectly visible from the machine, for a distance of some twelve or fifteen hundred feet, so that the slightest obstruction could readily have been discerned by the engineer. It was found that a man with optical ordinary power, could, solely by the light reflected from the lamp, readily read a newspaper printed in ordinary type, at a full quarter of a mile from the locomotive. This seems incredible, but it is literally true. The distance was carefully measured by a professional engineer who was in the party.

INTERESTING DECISION. The Connecticut Court of Errors has confirmed the mandamus of the superior Court directing the New York and New Haven Railroad Company to ticket passengers through to Boston by the Shore line, to check baggage in the same way, and to run three cars from New York to Boston and back, on that route, in compliance with a law passed by the Connecticut Legislature. Two of the three Judges were averse to sustaining the mandamus, but the third being in favor, it was upheld, and the law requires the concurrence of the three.

BEAR KILLED IN POWELL. A stray Bear was killed in Powell this week. Such an event has not occurred in that town since 1819 when Job Allen, who died the present year a rev. Pensioner, with his boys killed a bear and treed her two cubs. One of the boys climbed the tree and knocked down the cubs, one of which was saved and killed that autumn, and we, then a boy, ate one portion of him.

We have several interesting communications, which shall appear on next issue.

Agricultural.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL CHEMISTRY.

The friends of Agriculture throughout the State will be rejoiced to learn of the action of the Androscoggin Agricultural Society in reference to the immediate establishment and endowment of a department of Agricultural Chemistry. In accordance with the request of the members of the Society and the friends of Agriculture, as expressed in a resolution which was published last week, offered by Hon. Robert Martin of Danville, and adopted on motion of Gen. Philo Clark of Turner, the President and Trustees of the Androscoggin Agricultural Society will petition the next Legislature to establish and suitably endow a department in one of our Seminaries of learning, for instruction in Agricultural Chemistry.

So far as we have learned, the farmers of this County and of the State are unanimous in their approval of this movement at the present time. In addition to the names of Hon. John Prince of Turner and Jesse Davis, Esq., of Webster, who spoke briefly and decidedly in favor of the immediate establishment of such a department, Charles F. Jordan, Esq., of Poland, Wm. R. Wright, Esq., and Hon. John M. Frye of Lewiston, B. D. Bryant, Esq., of Webster, Josiah Mower, Esq., of Greene, Moses Fitz, Esq., of Danville and many others, signified their approval of the measure and would have enforced their views on the Fair grounds, had there been time. The feeling seems to be unanimous and decided that action has been delayed too long, and that the farming interest and the general interests of the State, require the next Legislature to act favorably upon this petition. Too long have our agricultural operations been carried on in ignorance of those scientific principles which have to do with the soil. In every other department of human activity, instruction in the principles and laws which relate to it, is considered indispensable; but in the department of agriculture, the most important both on account of the number of persons engaged in it and value of its products, there is not a single school or possible opportunity for instruction in the State.

The mode of action pointed out by the Androscoggin Agricultural Society, contemplates the institution of a Professorship of Agricultural Chemistry in a Seminary of learning already in full operation in the State. It is thought that this course will give the State a school having most of the advantages of a model agricultural school, at a very moderate expense to the State. It is estimated that a fund of \$30,000 will be sufficient, and it is probable that if the State would give \$15,000, an equal amount might be raised by private subscription. This would give an excellent school at a very small expense to the State. We understand that the friends of the Maine State Seminary, which is probably better situated for the establishment of such a department than any other similar institution—being centrally located and having a large amount of land—would probably consent to institute and support the department on the conditions named. If so the friends of agriculture have an open path, and they should not suffer this opportunity to slip. Let other agricultural societies unite with that of our society, and let the farmers of Maine petition the Legislature in aid of this important movement.

Lewiston Falls Journal.

ORIGINAL PLAN OF TYING HORSES. Barrow, in his "Visit to Iceland, mentions a rather curious but essential plan, in practice among the Icelanders of tying their horses, which is believed to be peculiar to the island. They tie the head of one horse to the tail of another, and the head of this one to the tail of the third. Under these circumstances, if the animals are disposed to move, it will only be possible in a circle, and even then there must be an agreement to turn their heads the same way.

PATENT MODE OF PATTENING PIGS.

The Belfast Journal is responsible for the following:
A family residing not a thousand miles from Church street, in this city, keeps, as every economist and well regulated family should, a thriving pig for the replenishing of the pork barrel about Christmas. One day the lady of the house, in clearing out the store-room, found a lot of old and mouldy dried apple, and as the readiest mode of disposal, threw it into the pig pen. The pig, as in duty bound, devoured it. At night, the man of the house, while disposing of the animal's evening meal, was troubled to find that his promising porker would not eat; neither sugar, meal, potatoes, nor any favorite food would tempt him, but he seemed troubled with a raging thirst, and drank enormous quantities of water. As the pig drank, he swelled, assuming at last fearful proportions, looking like a bristled porcupine protruding a head and a tail. Mournful his pork as lost through the agency of some new and strange disorder, the proprietor, calculating his loss in dollars and cents, resigned himself to fate. To his astonishment, however, the porker's huge proportions gradually subsided, until he returned to his old dimensions, and took to his food as usual. Then the lady confessed her agency in the matter. As the secret was known only to her and the pig, she resolved that if he died, the survivor would never dispel the mystery. For a sudden fattening, she thinks nothing equals damaged dried apples.

A WEALTHY MAN. The New York correspondent of the New Orleans Crescent gives the following description of George Law:

"If anything don't pay, George Law respectfully drops it. He now owns one-sixth of the Eighth Avenue Railroad, which alone is an income of a prince, and growing more valuable every day. He owns nearly all the stock of the Ninth Avenue, which, when completed, will run from the Battery through Greenwich street to the Ninth Avenue, and thence to Harlem river—a nine mile concern. Half the ferries belong to Law. He owns the Dry Dock Bank, and the bank owns about forty acres of docks, houses and land in almost the very heart of the city. Law owns the Staten Island ferry boats, and two miles of water front, nearest New York, that in a few years will be worth more than millions. He really owns the Flushing Railroad, and heaven knows how much more he owns. That immense thinking brain keeps accumulating. I don't think he goes into large operations now for the purpose of making money. I think he works to keep from stagnating. Though not a politician he wields a very powerful influence upon politics, especially upon local affairs. Most persons have an idea that he is an old man. No such thing. He is only fifty one years old, and possesses one of those vigorous constitutions that will last him forty nine years longer.

THE CHARITY TRICK. Breslau, a celebrated juggler, being at Canterbury with his troupe, met with such bad success that they were almost starved. He repaired to the churchwardens, and promised to give the profits of a night's conjuration to the poor, if the parish would pay for hiring a room, etc. The charitable bait took, the benefit proved a bumper, and next morning the churchwardens waited upon the wizard to touch the receipts. I have already disposed of them," said Breslau; "de profits were for the poor. I have kept my promise, and given de money to my own people, who are de poorest in dis parish!" "Sir," exclaimed the churchwardens, "this is a trick."—"I know it," replied the conjurer; "I live by my tricks."

"SOT BACK." A story is told of an old gentleman who made it a rule that his children should dine at a side table until they were sixteen years old, at which age they were permitted to eat with the older members of the family. On one occasion a visitor, who was a friend of the family, observed one of the boys, whom he thought was of requisite age, eating at a side table, and asked him if he was not sixteen years old. "Yes," said the boy, "I was sixteen some time ago, and the old man let me come to his table; but there was a dish for dinner that I was very fond of, and instead of being helped, I undertook to help myself and reaching too far met with an accident, and he set me back two years."

SHERIDAN beautifully said:—"Women govern us, let us render them perfect; the more they are enlightened, so much the more shall we be. On the cultivation of the mind of women depends the wisdom of men. It is by women that nature writes on the hearts of men."

HOOPS IN JERUSALEM. An oriental traveller tells of the commotion caused in the streets of Jerusalem by the appearance of a lady in hoops. A group of Turkish soldiers were resolved to solve the mystery of her bulky dress, so one of them pretended to fall to the ground by her side, and clutching her dress as it came, he beheld the wonderful machinery by which the lady was surrounded. Some Turkish ladies handled the hoops with great dexterity, but could not be made to see their advantages, notwithstanding the Frank lady brought all her eloquence to bear on the subject. To all she could say they replied—"Allah save us from this great umbrella which you Frank ladies consider so indispensable to your beauty and comfort, and Allah grant, also, that we may be spared the pain of the tightly fitting clothes with which you torture yourselves!" Sensible ladies!

IMMENSE SIZE OF THE PYRAMIDS. A United States naval chaplain, who has recently visited the grand pyramid of Cheops, in Egypt, wading in the deep and fourteen hundred feet, before he had passed one of its sides, and between five and six thousand feet before he had made the circuit, says, that taking a hundred New York churches of the ordinary width, and arranging them in a hollow square, twenty-five on a side, you would have scarcely the basement of this pyramid; take another hundred, and throw their material into the hollow square, and it would be full. Pile on all the stone and brick of Philadelphia and Boston and that structure would not be as high and solid as this greatest work of man. One layer of brick was long since removed to Cairo for building purposes, and enough remains to supply the demands of a city of half a million of people, for a century, if they were permitted freely to use it.

Washington had a silver seal, which was lost on Braddock's field in 1775. In 1843 it was ploughed up, and picked up about eighty yards from the spot on which Braddock is supposed to have fallen. He also had a golden seal which was lost, and ploughed up in a field after four years. Two such events in the history of one man are very remarkable. These seals are now worn by Col. Washington, (not the possessor of Mount Vernon) the nearest living representative of the General. Exchange.

SCALE is the sum that is required to patronize the newspaper, and most amply remunerated is the patron. I care not how humble and unpretending the gazette which he takes, it is next to impossible to fill it fifty-two times a year without putting into it something that is worth the subscription price. Every parent whose son is off from home, at school, should supply him with a paper. I still remember what difference there was between those of my school-mates who had and those who had not access to newspapers. Other things being equal, the first were decidedly superior to the last, in debate and composition at least. The reason is plain: they have command of more facts. Youth will peruse newspapers with delight when they will read nothing else. Judge Longstreet.

A youth was lately leaving his aunt's house after a visit, when, it began to rain, he caught up an umbrella that was snugly placed in a corner, and was proceeding to open it, when the old lady, who for the first time noticed his movements spring towards him, exclaiming—"No, no, that you never shall!" "I've had that umbrella twenty-three years, and it never has been wet yet, and I am sure it shan't be wet now!"

RAILROAD ACCIDENT. On the morning of Wednesday Nov. 9, as the excursion train on the Kennebec & Portland Road from Augusta was approaching the village of Richmond, a deaf old man named Reed happened to be walking on the track, and as he did not hear the alarm whistle, he was struck by the cow-catcher and thrown to one side in such a manner as to leave one arm to be run over and mangled. It had to be amputated. Mr. Reed has since died.—Maine Farmer.

A few days ago, John McDermott, of Juliet, Ill., who had been much debilitated by sickness, was leaning against a picket fence in that town, when he slipped, and his neck was caught between two of the pickets, where he was strangled to death, being too weak to extricate himself.

AN OPEN EYE.

The whole book of Job seems to have been chiefly written and placed in the inspired volume in order to show the value of material history, and its power on the human heart. I cannot pass by it without pointing out the evidences of the beauty of the country that Job inhabited. Observe, first, it was an arable country. "The oxen were plowing, and the asses were feeding beside them." It was a pastoral country; his substance, besides camels and asses, was 7000 sheep. It was a mountainous country, fed by streams descending from the heights. "My brethren have dealt deceitfully as a brook, and as the stream of brooks they pass away; which are brackish by reason of the ice, and wherein they wash their feet, the place of their slippage is hid: What time they wax warm they vanish: when it is hot they are consumed out of their place." Again, "I will wash myself with snow-water, and make my hands never so clean." Again, "Drought and heat consume the snow-water." It was a rocky country, with forests and verdure rooted in the rocks. "His branch shooteth forth in the garden; and scath the place of stones." Again, "Thou shalt be in league with the stones of the field." It was a place visited, like the valleys of Switzerland, by convulsions and falls of mountains. "Surely the mountain falling cometh to naught, and the rock is removed out of his place." "The waters wear the stones; Thou wastest away the things which grow out of the dust of the earth." "Herein the mountains and they know not; they overtake them in his anger." "He putteth forth his hand upon the rock; He overturneth the mountains by the roots; He cutteth out rivers among the rocks." I have not time to go further into this, but you see Job's country was full of pleasant brooks and rivers, rushing among the rocks, and all other sweet and noble elements of landscape. The magnificent allusions to natural scenery throughout the book are therefore calculated to touch the heart to the end of time. John Ruskin.

A man passing through a potato patch observed an Irishman planting some potatoes. He inquired of him what kind he had there? "Raw ones sure," replied the son of Erin.

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